

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

----- X  
HIRAM TORRES,

Plaintiff,

-against-

Detective JAMES BARRY, Shield No. 03171; Detective  
JOSHUE I. PEREZ, Shield No. 7624; and JOHN and  
JANE DOE 1 through 10, individually and in their official  
capacities (the names John and Jane Doe being fictitious, as  
the true names are presently unknown),

Defendants.  
----- X

**ANSWER TO COMPLAINT  
ON BEHALF OF JOSHUE  
PEREZ**

14 CV 2876 (VSB)

Jury Trial Demanded

ECF Case

Defendant Joshue Perez<sup>1</sup>, by his attorney, Zachary W. Carter, Corporation  
Counsel of the City of New York, for his Answer to the Complaint ("Complaint"), respectfully  
alleges, upon information and belief, as follows:

1. Denies the allegations set forth in paragraph "1" of the Complaint, except  
admits that plaintiff purports to proceed as stated therein.
2. Denies the allegations set forth in paragraph "2" of the Complaint, except  
admits that plaintiff purports to bring this action as stated therein.
3. Denies the allegations set forth in paragraph "3" of the Complaint, except  
admits that plaintiff purports to invoke the jurisdiction of this Court as stated therein.
4. Denies the allegations set forth in paragraph "4" of the Complaint, except  
admits that plaintiff purports lay venue as stated therein.
5. Paragraph "5" of the Complaint contains no averments of fact and,  
therefore, requires no response.

<sup>1</sup> An answer was filed on behalf of defendant Detective James Barry on or about July 17, 2014.

6. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations set forth in paragraph “6” of the Complaint.

7. Denies the allegations set forth in paragraph “7” of the Complaint, except admits that he is employed by the City of New York as a police detective and that plaintiff purports to sue him as set forth therein.

8. Denies the allegations set forth in paragraph “8” of the Complaint, except admits that he is employed by the City of New York as a police sergeant and that plaintiff purports to sue him as set forth therein.

9. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations set forth in paragraph “9” of the Complaint, except admits that plaintiff purports to sue the John and Jane Does as set forth therein.

10. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations set forth in paragraph “10” of the Complaint, except admits that plaintiff purports to sue the John and Jane Does as set forth therein.

11. Paragraph “11” of the Complaint contains conclusions of law rather than averments of fact and, therefore, requires no response.

12. Admits the allegations set forth in paragraph “12” of the Complaint, except denies that plaintiff’s activity was “lawful.”

13. Denies the allegations set forth in paragraph “13” of the Complaint.

14. Denies the allegations set forth in paragraph “14” of the Complaint.

15. Denies the allegations set forth in paragraph “15” of the Complaint.

16. Denies the allegations set forth in paragraph “16” of the Complaint, except admits that plaintiff was transported to the 48<sup>th</sup> Precinct stationhouse.

17. Denies the allegations set forth in paragraph “17” of the Complaint.

18. Denies the allegations set forth in paragraph “18” of the Complaint.

19. Denies the allegations set forth in paragraph “19” of the Complaint, except admits that plaintiff was transported to Bronx Central Booking.

20. Denies the allegations set forth in paragraph “20” of the Complaint, except admits that plaintiff was arraigned and released on his own recognizance.

21. Denies the allegations set forth in paragraph “21” of the Complaint, except admits that plaintiff’s criminal charges were dismissed and sealed on or about May 7, 2013.

22. Denies the allegations set forth in paragraph “22” of the Complaint.

23. In response to the allegations set forth in paragraph “23” of the Complaint, defendant repeats and realleges all of the responses contained within the preceding paragraphs of this answer, as if fully set forth herein.

24. Denies the allegations set forth in paragraph “24” of the Complaint.

25. Denies the allegations set forth in paragraph “25” of the Complaint.

26. In response to the allegations set forth in paragraph “26” of the Complaint, defendant repeats and realleges all of the responses contained within the preceding paragraphs of this answer, as if fully set forth herein.

27. Denies the allegations set forth in paragraph “27” of the Complaint.

28. Denies the allegations set forth in paragraph “28” of the Complaint.

29. In response to the allegations set forth in paragraph “29” of the Complaint, defendant repeats and realleges all of the responses contained within the preceding paragraphs of this answer, as if fully set forth herein.

30. Denies the allegations set forth in paragraph “30” of the Complaint.

31. Denies the allegations set forth in paragraph "31" of the Complaint.

32. Denies the allegations set forth in paragraph "32" of the Complaint.

33. In response to the allegations set forth in paragraph "33" of the Complaint, defendant repeats and realleges all of the responses contained within the preceding paragraphs of this answer, as if fully set forth herein.

34. Denies the allegations set forth in paragraph "34" of the Complaint.

35. Denies the allegations set forth in paragraph "35" of the Complaint.

36. Denies the allegations set forth in paragraph "36" of the Complaint.

37. Denies the allegations set forth in paragraph "37" of the Complaint.

38. In response to the allegations set forth in paragraph "38" of the Complaint, defendant repeats and realleges all of the responses contained within the preceding paragraphs of this answer, as if fully set forth herein.

39. Denies the allegations set forth in paragraph "39" of the Complaint.

40. Denies the allegations set forth in paragraph "40" of the Complaint.

41. Denies the allegations set forth in paragraph "41" of the Complaint.

**AS AND FOR A FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

42. The Complaint fails to state a claim upon which relief can be granted.

**AS AND FOR A SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

43. Defendant has not violated any rights, privileges or immunities under the Constitution or laws of the United States or the State of New York or any political subdivision thereof.

**AS AND FOR A THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

44. Any injury alleged to have been sustained resulted from plaintiff's own culpable or negligent conduct or the intervening culpable and/or negligent conduct of others and was not the proximate result of any act of the defendant.

**AS AND FOR A FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

45. Plaintiff's claims may be barred, in whole or in part, because plaintiff may have failed to comply with all conditions precedent to suit under state law.

**AS AND FOR A FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

46. There was probable cause for plaintiff's arrest, detention and/or prosecution.

**AS AND FOR A SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

47. There was reasonable suspicion for any stop or search of the plaintiff.

**AS AND FOR A SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

48. The defendant did not violate any clearly established constitutional or statutory right of which a reasonable person would have known, and, therefore, is protected by qualified immunity.

**AS AND FOR AN EIGHTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

49. At all times relevant to the acts alleged in the Complaint, the defendant acted reasonably in the proper and lawful exercise of his discretion.

**AS AND FOR A NINTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

50. Plaintiff failed to mitigate damages.

**WHEREFORE**, defendant Joshue Perez requests judgment dismissing the Complaint in its entirety, together with the costs and disbursements of this action, and such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

Dated: New York, New York  
August 26, 2014

ZACHARY W. CARTER  
Corporation Counsel of the  
City of New York  
*Attorney for Defendants Barry & Perez*  
City of New York  
100 Church Street  
New York, New York 10007  
(212) 356-2371

By:                     /S                      
Karl J. Ashanti, Esq.

To:  
Gabriel P. Harvis, Esq. (By ECF and Mail)  
Harvis, Wright & Fett, LLP  
*Attorneys for Plaintiff*  
305 Broadway, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, New York 10007  
(212) 323-6880

**DECLARATION OF SERVICE BY ECF AND FIRST-CLASS MAIL**

I, **Karl J. Ashanti**, declare, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, under penalty of perjury, that, on **August 26, 2014**, I served the annexed **Answer to Complaint on behalf of Joshue Perez** by ECF and by depositing a copy of the same, enclosed in a first-class postpaid properly addressed wrapper, in a post office official depository under the exclusive care and custody of the United States Postal Service, within the State of New York, upon the following:

Gabriel P. Harvis, Esq.  
Harvis, Wright & Fett, LLP  
305 Broadway, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, New York 10007

Dated: New York, New York  
August 26, 2014

\_\_\_\_\_/S\_\_\_\_\_  
Karl J. Ashanti, Esq.

Index No. 14 CV 2876 (VSB)

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-against-

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presently unknown),

Defendants.

**ANSWER TO COMPLAINT ON BEHALF OF  
JOSHUE PEREZ**

***ZACHARY W. CARTER***

*Corporation Counsel of the City of New York  
Attorney for Defendants  
100 Church Street  
New York, N.Y. 10007*

*Of Counsel: Karl J. Ashanti, Esq.  
Tel: (212) 356-2371  
Law Manager No. 2014-016142*

*Due and timely service is hereby admitted.*

*New York, N.Y. ...., 2014.....*

*..... Esq.*

*Attorney for .....*